

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated December 17, 2004. Claims 1-14 were pending in the original application. In the Office Action, claims 1-14 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1-14 were cancelled and claims 15-28 were added. Claims 15-28 thus remain for consideration.

Applicant submits that claims 15-28 are in condition for allowance and requests withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to because (1) the label "Fig. 1" should be removed from the first drawing sheet and (2) the drawings fail to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5).

The drawings have been corrected, therefore, the above objections should be removed. Replacement drawings are attached to this amendment.

Objection to the Specification

The specification was objected to because of informalities.

The specification has been corrected, therefore, the above objection should be removed.

§ 112 Rejections

Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement and/or failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-14 were cancelled and claims 15-28 have been added so as to avoid the above 112 rejections. Therefore, the above rejections should be traversed.

§§ 102 Rejections

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lesley et al. (U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0128783).

Applicant submits that independent claims 15 and 26-28 are patentable over Lesley.

Applicant's invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward a twist mop. For example, independent claim 15 specifies that the twist mop comprises a pole, fibers, a movable collar, an upper spline and a pawl. Claim 15 further specifies that the pawl is shaped to flex toward the upper spline when said collar axially and radially traverses the pole.

Lesley does not disclose a pawl that is shaped to flex toward the upper spline when said collar axially and radially traverses the pole.

Since Lesley does not disclose a pawl that is shaped to flex toward the upper spline when said collar axially and radially traverses the pole, Applicant believes that independent claims (claims 15 and 26-28) are patentable over Lesley.

Claims 16-25 depend on claim 15. Since claim 15 is believed to be patentable over Lesley, claims 16-25 are believed to be patentable over Lesley on the basis of their dependency on claim 15.

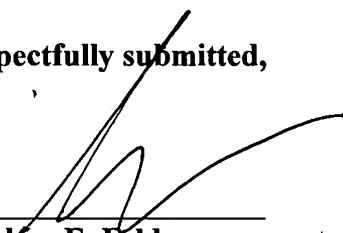
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 06-0515.

Respectfully submitted,



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